

## Community resources

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*courage is contagious*

## Viewing cable 08STOCKHOLM722, SWEDEN ON PALESTINIAN DETAINEE AT GUANTANAMO

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

### Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

### Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#08STOCKHOLM722**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
<a href="#">08STOCKHOLM722</a>	<a href="#">2008-10-29 15:17</a>	<a href="#">2011-08-30 01:44</a>	<a href="#">SECRET</a>	<a href="#">Embassy Stockholm</a>

Appears in these articles:

[http://svtplay.se/v/2256485/dokument\\_inifran/de\\_hemliga\\_telegrammen](http://svtplay.se/v/2256485/dokument_inifran/de_hemliga_telegrammen)

VZCZCXYZ0000  
OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHSM #0722/01 3031517  
ZNY SSSSS ZZH  
O 291517Z OCT 08  
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
TO RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE 0152  
RUEHTH/AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE 0099  
RUEHBW/AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE 0001  
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN IMMEDIATE 0450  
RUEHSL/AMEMBASSY BRATISLAVA IMMEDIATE 0117  
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE 4591  
RUEHBM/AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST IMMEDIATE 0391  
RUEHUP/AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST IMMEDIATE 0077  
RUEHCH/AMEMBASSY CHISINAU IMMEDIATE 0030  
RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE 3165  
RUEHDO/AMEMBASSY DOHA IMMEDIATE 0060  
RUEHHE/AMEMBASSY HELSINKI IMMEDIATE 0328  
RUEHKV/AMEMBASSY KYIV IMMEDIATE 0015  
RUEHLI/AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE 0180  
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE 2190  
RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO IMMEDIATE 2498  
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE 0296  
RUEHPG/AMEMBASSY PRAGUE IMMEDIATE 0961  
RUEHRK/AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE 0087  
RUEHRA/AMEMBASSY RIGA IMMEDIATE 0864

RUEHRH/AMEMBASSY RIYADH IMMEDIATE 0105  
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE 0389  
RUEHSQ/AMEMBASSY SKOPJE IMMEDIATE 0124  
RUEHSF/AMEMBASSY SOFIA IMMEDIATE 0476  
RUEHTL/AMEMBASSY TALLINN IMMEDIATE 2315  
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE 3812  
RUEHTI/AMEMBASSY TIRANA IMMEDIATE 0145  
RUEHVI/AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE 0268  
RUEHWR/AMEMBASSY WARSAW IMMEDIATE 2376  
RUEHYE/AMEMBASSY YEREVAN IMMEDIATE 0023  
RUEHVB/AMEMBASSY ZAGREB IMMEDIATE 0309  
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3845

S E C R E T STOCKHOLM 000722

SIPDIS

NEA/IPA FOR SARAH HANKINS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/27/2018

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PTER](#) [PHUM](#) [MOPS](#) [KAWK](#) [KISL](#) [KPAO](#) [SW](#)

SUBJECT: SWEDEN ON PALESTINIAN DETAINEE AT GUANTANAMO

REF: A. STATE 106853

[1](#)B. 2007 STOCKHOLM 368

Classified By: POL Counselor Marc Koehler for reasons 1.4 (B) & (D).

[1](#)1. (S) This is an action request. Please see para 7.

[1](#)2. (S) Summary: The Swedish Migration Board (SMB) appears interested in learning more about Detainee 049 based on comments made in an October 27 meeting with Emboffs. A "formal" written request is more effective within the Swedish bureaucracy, according to SMB, and USG agencies should consider a direct approach to the Swedish Embassy in Washington, which is authorized to refer cases directly to the SMB. End Summary.

[1](#)3. (S) POL Counselor delivered ref A demarche on October 14 to MFA Americas' Desk Officer Jemina Holmberg and MFA's Security Policy Division Director Nils Daag. Both pledged to brief the request up their chains as there would be "political interest" in such a case. Holmberg contacted us on October 15 and reported that we should also meet with the independent SMB, which would have primary responsibility for processing such a request.

[1](#)4. (S) POL Counselor and Poloff met with the SMB's Chief of the Asylum and Refugee Unit Oscar Ekblad and Senior Refugee Quota Coordinator Ruben Ahlvin to deliver ref A demarche on October 27. Ekblad responded that the SMB is bound by law to accept references only from the UNHCR or Swedish embassies, although in "extremely special" cases, the Government could direct the independent SMB to consider a specific request. (Comment: Despite MFA interlocutors telling us in the past that it would be "difficult" to intervene "politically" with the work of the SMB, as in ref B, Ekblad explicitly noted that possibility. Accordingly, we will look for an opportunity to raise the matter again at senior levels with the Government. End comment.) On his way out the door, Ekblad pointedly reiterated that a Swedish embassy overseas was authorized to submit a request to the SMB, and in response to a question, he affirmed that the Swedish Embassy in Washington could directly refer a request for a Guantanamo detainee.

[1](#)5. (S) Ekblad also stated that he would report our demarche on Detainee 049 to Carin Bratt, Deputy Director for Migration and Asylum Issues in the Ministry of Justice, during a meeting scheduled for October 28. He indicated that if this case were to "proceed," a follow-up face-to-face meeting between Emboffs and MoJ would most likely be necessary. He indicated that a "formal" request in writing would be more effective than past "informal" approaches related to other Guantanamo detainees. In that context, he asked for Post to obtain information, preferably in writing, about why Detainee 049 could not be returned to Gaza and what the risk of

persecution would be for him there. While Ekblad stopped short of asking for additional information on the detainee himself pending the outcome of his meeting at MoJ, he stated that the Swedish Security Police, SAPO, would need such -- including any ties to political organizations -- to be able to run background checks.

¶6. (S) Ahlvin and Ekblad noted that Sweden has never accepted Guantanamo detainees before, and noted the "sensitive" case of Adil Hakimjan, an ethnic Uighur who had been resettled in Albania but applied for asylum in Sweden several months ago. Because he had already obtained residency in Albania, his application was denied in June and his appeal was denied this month. Nonetheless, there has been "public outcry" over the denial, which could "inform the environment" in which this request is received. Therefore, while the case of Detainee 049 will be considered in a "friendly environment," in light of the current situation, it could still be a "hard sell" that would need "political support," Ekblad said.

¶7. (S) Comment and Action Request: Ekblad indirectly but repeatedly suggested that Washington agencies request the Swedish Embassy to consider Detainee 049 for asylum in Sweden. Any such request should be "formal" and preferably in writing, he implied. He also asked for additional information, in written form, on the reasons for Detainee 049's fear of persecution in Gaza.

-- Action request 1: Post suggests Washington agencies consider a direct approach to the Swedish mission in Washington regarding Detainee 049.

-- Action request 2: Post requests Department provide additional information on risks of persecution Detainee 049 might face in Gaza.

End Comment and Action Request.  
WOOD